

# Year 2002 Highlights

*The Mid-Pacific Region's employees are engaged in a myriad of activities to ensure its customers receive high-quality services. Achievements during 2002 span many areas. On the following pages are the year's Highlights. Numbers in parenthesis following a section title indicate placement on the location map on page 21.*



*School children receive information about water uses at the American River Water Education Center.*

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**ARWEC reached approximately 12,600 individuals in 2002. About 8,000 children were reached through tours and educational programs.**

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## American River Water Education Center

The American River Water Education Center (ARWEC) at Folsom Dam is a joint effort of Reclamation and California State Parks to stimulate interest in and increase knowledge of the American River watershed, thus promoting resource stewardship. Emphasis is placed on how individuals can actively participate in water conservation. This is done through exhibits on the American River watershed and water conservation, educational programs, tours of the Folsom Historic Powerhouse, a water efficient garden, and special events.

ARWEC reached approximately 12,600 individuals in 2002. About 8,000 children were reached through tours and educational programs, and an additional 900 children and adults received water conservation messages through two special events. ARWEC participated in Creek Week (1,200 contacts), sponsoring a booth that emphasized water conservation and educational programs at ARWEC. ARWEC also participated in the American River Salmon Festival (23,000 attendees), sponsoring two booths (one on water conservation, the other on Folsom Dam) and Reclamation's Centennial Trailer. Volunteers and other organizations contributed 2,700 hours and provided \$11,500 of in-kind services to the efforts of the center and its activities.

Dam tours did not resume in 2002. CCAO staff continued to provide Folsom Dam information in educational programs at ARWEC and worked with California State Parks to provide tours and educational programs on electricity at the Folsom Historic Powerhouse, 2 miles down river from ARWEC.

At Reclamation's request, a review of the adequacy and viability of the Folsom Dam visitation security program was completed in February 2002. This evaluation was to determine whether visitor tours at the dam could be resumed and whether portions of the dam could be reopened without exposing the visitors to significant risks.

In March 2002, CCAO staff received the report which identified requirements that must be in place and operational before dam tours (for school groups only) can be resumed. CCAO staff has implemented some of those requirements and is currently working to implement the remaining requirements. At the end of 2002, there was no firm date for resumption of school group tours.

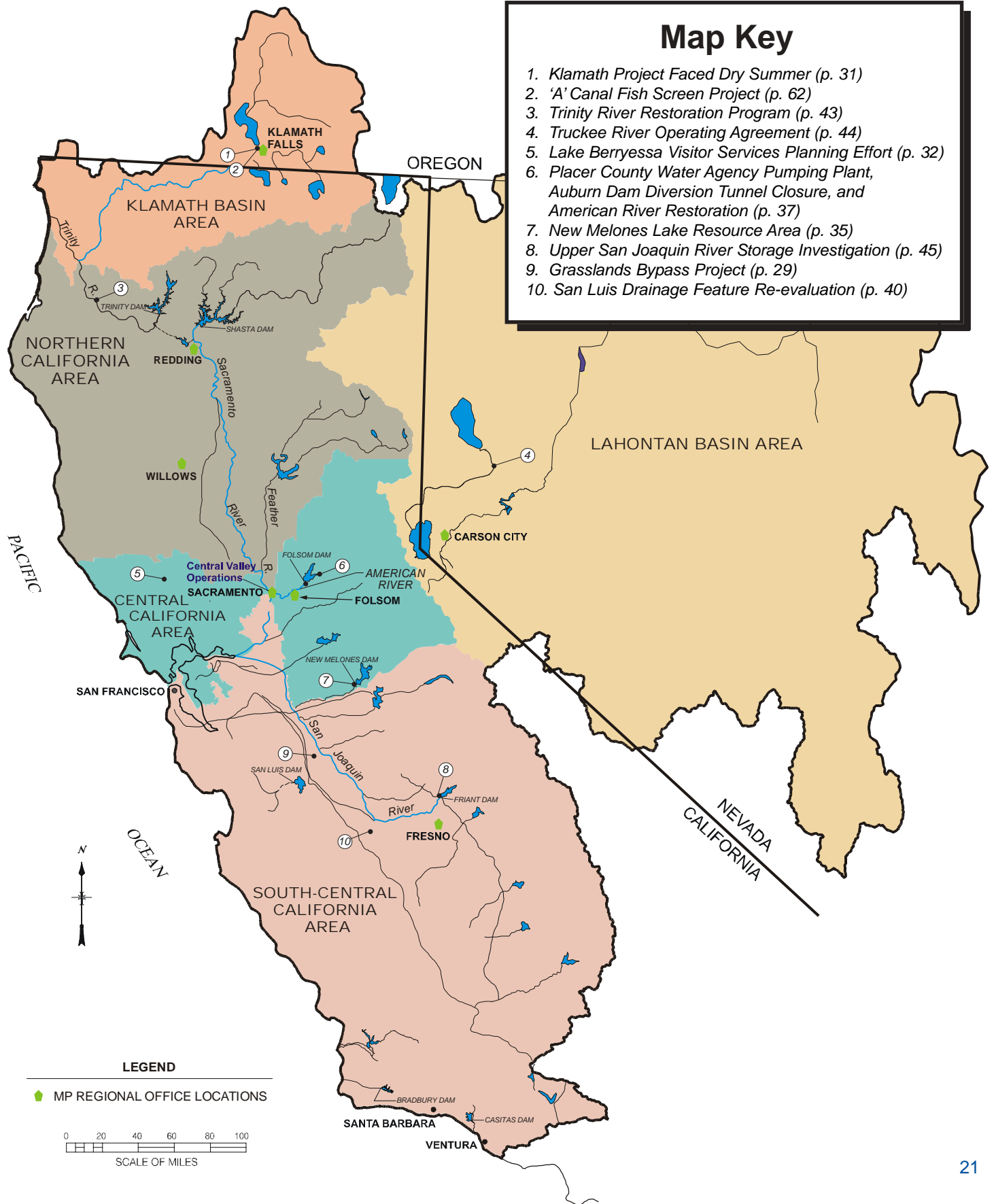
Under a special use permit, Science Enrichment Services, Inc. (SES) used ARWEC's facilities for a Science Day Camp for 3 weeks in summer 2002. In compensation, SES is teaching 14 electricity classes at ARWEC in winter 2003.

For additional information, contact CCAO at 916-988-1707 (TDD 916-989-7285).

# MID-PACIFIC REGION HIGHLIGHTS

## Map Key

1. Klamath Project Faced Dry Summer (p. 31)
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3. Trinity River Restoration Program (p. 43)
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## Business Resources Center Activities

The Region's Business Resources Center (BRC), the Region's principal supplier of administrative expertise and service, provided its customers with expert business advice and service so that they were able to successfully serve their customers. Following are descriptions of some of BRC's activities during 2002.

### IT security

During 2002, the BRC established a full-time IT Security Manager position reporting directly to the Regional Business Manager. In coordination with the Security Manager, BRC Information Technology Services (ITS) provided extensive technical, logistical, and administrative support in successfully establishing and operating the Sacramento peer site facility as part of the Reclamation Network (RecNet) security perimeter.

ITS also accomplished all coordination and technical and reporting requirements necessary to secure individual Indian Tribal Trust information. Finally, the IT Security Manager completed all required accreditation actions for IT systems in conformance with Reclamation-wide schedules and commitments.

### Budget execution

The Regional Director identified unobligated carryover as a critical item in FY 2002. FY 2001 carryover included items previously approved for carryover; however, in order to meet key Reclamation objectives, all Region offices were directed to minimize carryover balances in FY 2002. As a result of innovative over-programming items, intensive efforts by Budget Services and Contracting Services, unobligated carryover was minimized without impact on the current year program.

### Water ratesetting and cost recovery

In conformance with water and power contractor expectations, Ratesetting Services completed and posted the draft 2003 CVP water rates on the Internet at the end of September 2002, marking the earliest time ever that the rates have been available to both internal staff and external customers.

This task was accomplished despite the loss of 1-1/2 months of rate team staff time due to the additional work required by changes to accounting practices as a result of the FY 2000 and 2001 financial audits.

In addition, Ratesetting Services completed a huge amount of testing to field the Region's new water accounting system on schedule for the 2003 water year.

### Financial integrity

As a result of the FY 2001 Department of the Interior's Office of Inspector General financial audit, Reclamation was required to reclassify costs associated with certain program activities from capital (construction-in-progress and plant-in-service) to expense. These accounting adjustments involved many prior years and resulted in the recalculation of all of our water contractors' individual accountings. This major effort took a team of 6 staff members 1-1/2 months to complete.

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The FY 2002 audit of Reclamation's consolidated financial statements, including the accounting records for the MP Region, resulted in a clean audit opinion without any unforeseen findings or recommendations. Accruals, internal controls for water revenues, and bank card controls were areas where audit findings were reported for the Region; however, the level of reporting for these findings did not impact the audit opinion.

### Records management

Administrative Management Services (AMS) was heavily involved during the 2002 summer months in supporting the Regional Office staff and Regional Solicitor during the resolution of two major lawsuits: *Glen Colusa vs. U.S.* and *Sumner Peck Ranch vs. U.S.* The records management staff researched active, inactive, and archival files in response to discovery motions and provided more than 180,000 pages of documents for attorney review. AMS also assisted in copying 70,000 pages of information for opposing counsel, as well as the Regional Solicitors Office and the Department of Justice.

### Audit compliance

Reclamation's leadership firmly believes that the timely implementation of Inspector General and General Accounting Office audit recommendations is essential to improve efficiency and effectiveness in its programs and operations and to achieve integrity and accountability goals. As a result, Reclamation has instituted a comprehensive audit follow-up program to ensure that audit recommendations are implemented in a timely manner. In 2002, MP Region closed all five of its open audit recommendations, some of which had been outstanding since 1998.

For additional information, call the Business Resources Center at 916-978-5552 (TDD 916-978-5608).

## CALFED Bay-Delta Program

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is a collaborative effort among 23 Federal and State agencies and representatives of California's environmental, urban, and agricultural communities to improve water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and water supply reliability in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, the hub of the State's water distribution system. The Bay-Delta is California's principal source of drinking water for more than 22 million Californians, and supplies irrigation water for the State's \$27 billion agricultural industry.

As the largest wetland habitat and estuary in the West, it also supports 750 plant and animal species, some found nowhere else on the planet. Ultimately, California's trillion-dollar economy, the seventh largest in the world, is at risk if environmental and water management problems are not resolved.

A Framework Agreement was signed in June 1994 setting forth the operating principles for developing a long-term solution to the Bay-Delta's problems. Phase I, completed in September 1996, concentrated

## Water Fact

The Central Valley Project is made up of 20 dams and reservoirs, 11 powerplants, 500 miles of major canals and aqueducts, 3 fish hatcheries, and assorted tunnels and conduits.



Aerial view of the Bay-Delta

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The mission of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is to develop and implement a long-term comprehensive plan that will restore ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system.

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on identifying and defining the problems confronting the Bay-Delta system and providing three alternatives for further analyses in Phase II. Under Phase II, a preferred program alternative was developed and a comprehensive programmatic environmental review process on a broad level was conducted. This resulted in the release of the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (PEIS/EIR) in July 2000 and the signing of the Record of Decision (ROD) on August 28, 2000. The ROD adopted the 30-year long-term plan to restore the Bay-Delta ecosystem and improve water management and began Stage 1 of Phase III (first 7 years). The ROD outlined commitments by the Federal and State governments and the performance goals for CALFED, calling for \$8.6 billion to be invested over the 7 years by both the Federal and State governments as cost-share partners.

Reclamation and other Federal agencies have been unable to fully participate in meeting the commitments of the ROD due to lack of long-term program authorization and funding levels needed for implementation during the first 2 years of Stage 1 (2001 and 2002) (other than where there has been existing authority to do so). State agencies have had to deal with contracting and funding issues, in addition to hiring restrictions imposed on them during 2002. Reclamation's FY 2002 appropriation included \$30 million under Water and Related Resources for activities in support of the goals of the California Bay-Delta Ecosystem Restoration Program within various units of the CVP. This allowed Reclamation to continue appraisal studies for several proposed storage and conveyance projects identified in the ROD and to purchase water for the Environmental Water Account.

While several bills were introduced during sessions of the 106<sup>th</sup> and 107<sup>th</sup> Congress that would have provided authorization needed to meet most Federal commitments, none of them moved to a final bill. Interior and Reclamation continue to support the program's goals and remain hopeful that Congress will authorize full Federal participation in 2003.

### About the Delta

**Watershed Area:** 61,000 square miles, or 37 percent of the State. The Delta covers 738,000 acres.

**Delta Inflow:** Inflow ranges from 6 to 69 MAF\* per year; average is 24 MAF.

**Diversions:** More than 7,000 diverters draw water from the system, including 1,800 in the Delta.

**Exports:** The State Water Project and Central Valley Project draw an average of 5.9 MAF each year (about 3.6 MAF for agriculture and 2.3 MAF for urban uses).

**Flora:** More than 400 plant species. **Fauna:** 225 birds, 52 mammals, and 22 reptile and amphibian species. **Fish:** 54 fish species in the Delta; 130 in the Delta and San Francisco Bay.

**Levees and Channels:** More than 700 miles of waterways and 1,100 miles of levees.

**Farmland:** More than 52,000 acres are farmed. Average annual gross value is \$500 million.

**Recreation:** About 12 million people per year enjoy the Delta.

\* MAF = Million Acre-Feet

Source: CALFED



Reclamation also serves as the Designated Federal Representative agency for the California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee, the 30-member citizens group appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance and recommendations to the Secretary and the Governor on program integration, coordination, balance, and assessment.

The California Legislature enacted legislation creating the California Bay-Delta Authority effective January 1, 2003, that provides a State governance structure for the Program as identified in the ROD, along with passing a substantial water bond. Reclamation was identified as one of the six Federal member agencies on the Authority, and pending Federal authorization of the Program, Reclamation and other Federal agencies will participate on the new Authority as non-voting members.

For additional information, contact the Special Projects Office at 916-978-5024 (TDD 916-978-5608).

## CVP Water and Power Operations

### Water Operations

In the 2002 Water Year, classified as “dry,” Reclamation managed the CVP to meet the requirements of the CVPIA, the Endangered Species Act Biological Opinions, CALFED objectives, and the water rights decision for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Water Quality (D-1641).

The CVP supported a water supply allocation of 100 percent for north-of-Delta agricultural and north-of-Delta urban project water users, 70 percent for south-of-Delta agricultural project water users, and 95 percent for south-of-Delta urban water users. Allocations were 100 percent for the water rights holders, exchange contractors, and wildlife refuges.

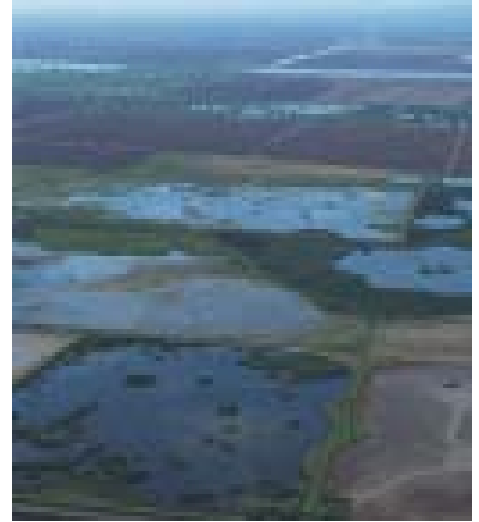
Reclamation facilitated water transfers to CVP water districts and used available conveyance at State Water Project (SWP) pumps under Joint Points of Diversion to supplement the CVP water supply. CVP operations accounted for the dedication of 800,000 acre-feet of water for the restoration of fish and wildlife habitat in accordance with CVPIA Section 3406(b)(2).

CVP operations entered into a new era as implementation began on portions of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the Environmental Water Account (EWA). For the first time, EWA water was used to compensate the CVP for environmental actions. Reclamation also played an active role in the State Water Resources Control Board water rights hearings conducted to assign responsibilities for meeting the flow requirements of D-1641.

### Power Operations

Reclamation and the Western Area Power Administration (Western) continued to collaborate on the many issues affecting CVP power operations. Two significant programs were initiated in 2002 that the agencies will be working on jointly.

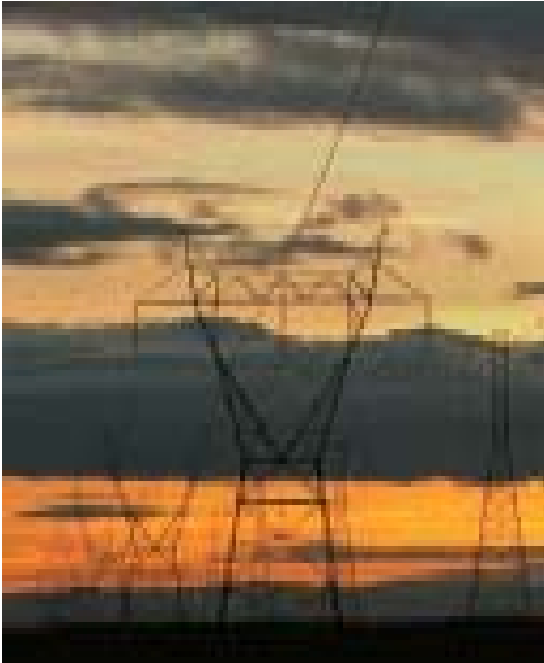
The first program is the planning for implementation of a new control area to be operational in June 2004. Under such an arrangement, Western would serve as the control area operator responsible for securing adequate generation to serve loads



*Wetlands near the Bay-Delta*

## Water Fact

The CVP's 11 hydro-electric powerplants produce on average 4.8 billion kilowatt hours of electricity a year.



Power lines in the Central Valley

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***For 2002, CVP  
generation was less  
than average due to the  
dry water year with  
86 percent of average  
production.***

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within the control area. Many of Western's preference customers would likely be a part of the control area versus remaining in the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) control area. To assist in the decision-making and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance, Western and Reclamation jointly funded a financial analysis to be conducted with the expectation that it will be completed by the second quarter of FY2003.

The second major program started in 2002 is related to development of a pilot program for optimizing CVP power generation as Reclamation water management decisions are being made. Application of an existing software package called VISTA is under way that modeled the CVP's Northern California portion. By early spring 2003, program evaluation is scheduled to be completed.

For the second year, the CVO continued to facilitate a work group comprised of water, power, fish and wildlife, and Western representatives to develop operational options for Reclamation after the contract with Pacific Gas & Electric terminates in 2004.

CVP power customers continued to increase the amount of advance funds they provided for operations and maintenance of CVP facilities. In FY2002, they provided approximately \$10 million for use in powerplant operations and maintenance activities, reducing the need for appropriations.

In addition, these power customers approved a commitment of their funds for a 3-year Reclamation program that includes funds for the high voltage generator installation at Folsom's powerplant, runner replacements at New Melones and Judge Francis Carr powerplants, and digital replacement governors at Shasta's powerplant.

For 2002, CVP generation was less than average due to the dry water year with 4,294 GWh of energy produced (86 percent of average production).

For additional information, contact the Central Valley Operations Office at 916-979-2180 (TDD 916-979-2183).

## Central Valley Automated Control System

Reclamation's Central Valley Automated Control System (CVACS) provides the technology tools essential to the real-time coordination of hydroelectric power generation and water releases with interrelated infrastructures operated by other Federal, State, and local agencies.

CVACS is a network of sensors and automation equipment enabling reliable, cost-effective generation of electrical power, optimizing available water supply, and efficiently managing water release operations for flood control, water quality, and environmental protection purposes.

For 2002, Reclamation continued to improve and enhance cyber security in compliance with the Government Information Security Reform Act and Executive Order 13231 of October 16, 2001, "*Critical Infrastructure Protection in the Information Age*." A review of the effectiveness of security controls in CVACS was completed as part of a continuing cycle of risk assessment. Enhancement of cyber security measures, in light of the challenges presented by constantly changing cyber tech-

nologies, will be incorporated in ongoing business practices based on a cost-effective, risk-management approach.

For additional information, contact the Central Valley Operations Office at 916-979-2180 (TDD 916-979-2183).

## Diversity

Efforts to improve diversity representation continued for minorities, women, and the disabled during 2002. Nearly 50 percent of the Mid-Pacific Region's workforce is comprised of minorities and women. Of the 889 permanent employees, 38 percent were women, 33 percent were veterans, and persons with disabilities represented 8 percent. Targeted outreach efforts were conducted through local partnerships, academic institutions, career fairs, and community networks. As a result, the overall population in Reclamation employment increased for Black females (+7 percent), Hispanic males (+12 percent), Hispanic females (+7.4 percent), and Asian American/Pacific Islander males (+4 percent). An increase in employment opportunities was also realized for minority and women students during 2002. Of the 58 students who worked throughout the Region, 53 percent were minorities and women.

In addition to executive-level leadership, managers, supervisors, employees, special emphasis coordinators, and human resources staff members all played a pivotal role in providing a focused commitment to sound affirmative employment principles. Continued efforts to market Reclamation as a premier employer for all groups has been successful and will continue in the future.

For additional information, contact the Division of Human Resources at 916-978-5482 (TDD 916-978-5608).

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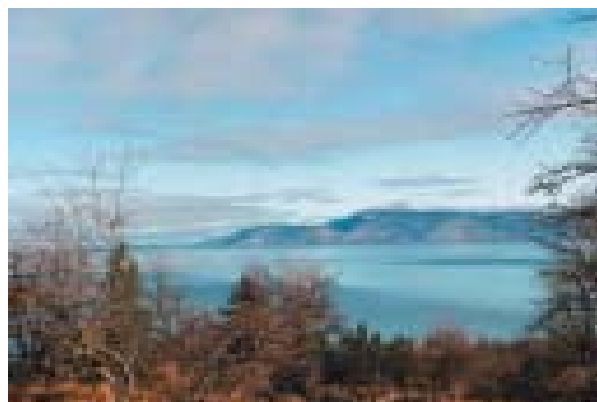
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## Environmental Monitoring Programs and Investigations

Various water quality studies and fishery investigations were continued in south-central Oregon in Upper Klamath Lake and the Klamath River Basin. Water quality studies provide data necessary to assess nutrient loading and its effect on dissolved oxygen levels and to develop models that correlate nutrients with algal production. Such studies enhance efforts to define regions within the lake where endangered fish species, the shortnose sucker and lost river sucker, can take refuge from oxygen-depleted areas.

Better understanding of this concept may allow Reclamation to modify operations that influence lake elevations, thereby creating better habitat for endangered fish populations. In cooperation with Reclamation, the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Biological Research Division continued population assessments on the endangered fish. Both juvenile and adult fish were collected and counted in the survey as a means of evaluating the health of the existing population.

The Mid-Pacific Region instituted a continuous selenium water quality-monitor-



Upper Klamath Lake



ing program at several sites in the Delta-Mendota Canal (DMC). Following concerns expressed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in their biological opinion (BO) on the interim contract renewals for compliance with ESA, the draft BO for operations and maintenance on CVP facilities, and the proposed listing of the DMC as an impaired water-body by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Reclamation established a sampling program to collect data necessary to assess loading and levels of selenium in the canal. Subsurface drainage discharged from Reclamation sumps is one of the primary sources of selenium in the DMC.



*Folsom Lake, where Reclamation is conducting water temperature profiles.*

Reclamation also continues to conduct water temperature profiles in Folsom Lake for modeling purposes. The models are used to evaluate cold-water pool reserves and subsequent releases from Folsom Dam that are necessary to protect downstream fisheries in the American River. The information collected allows Reclamation to modify operations at Folsom Dam based on the size and depth of the cold-water pool.

As part of Reclamation's effort to protect and restore watersheds, technical assistance was provided to various State, local, and other Federal agencies. In one such effort, Reclamation provided technical assistance to the California Department of Health Services by instituting a water quality-monitoring program in the DMC. The monitoring was needed to assess the quality of water, as it relates to State drinking water standards, in the canal before it is pumped into the California Aqueduct. Reclamation also provided assistance to USGS in their public health assessment from mercury contamination in the lower reach of the American River as a result of past gold mining operations.

The Mid-Pacific Region also conducted a water quality investigation on drainage discharged from Sliger Mine, an abandoned gold mine acquired by Reclamation in preparation for the construction of Auburn Dam. An application for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit was submitted to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. In another hazard assessment, Reclamation also conducted a toxicity assessment on sediment material deposited behind a dam proposed for removal.

For additional information, contact the Division of Environmental Affairs at 916-978-5280 (TDD 916-978-5680).



*Tricia Williams, center, from Australia visits the Tracy Pumping Plant in April 2002.*

## Foreign Visitor Program

Reclamation routinely assists water resource agencies of other countries, providing technical training and technical visitor programs for their staff. These programs usually combine office and field visits or study tours to Reclamation's Denver, Regional, and Area Offices. Programs may include classes at universities, visits to irrigation districts, and meetings with the private sector and non-governmental organizations.

Reclamation also responds to many requests for short-term visitor programs. These programs may range from a short tour of Reclamation's research laboratories in the Denver Office to a full day of in-depth discussions with Reclamation technical personnel. Reclamation makes arrangements for more than 800 visitors

annually from countries all over the world.

During 2002, the Mid-Pacific Region hosted almost 100 visitors from countries including China, Australia, Morocco, Cyprus, Korea, and Japan. Those visitors were treated to tours of Folsom Dam, Tracy Pumping Plant and Fish Collection Facility, Central Valley Joint Operations Center, the Delta Cross Channel Canal, Shasta Dam, and the Regional Office.

For additional information, contact the Office of Public Affairs at 916-978-5100 (TDD 916-978-5608).

## Grassland Bypass Project (9)

The Grassland Bypass Project (Project) allows the Grassland area farmers to use a 28-mile portion of the 85-mile-long San Luis Drain (Drain).

The Project was a consensus effort by Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency, with State, environmental, and agricultural representatives and local urban water interests.

In the 1980s, wildlife frequenting these wetlands suffered devastating impacts from selenium in agricultural drainage water discharged through the Drain to the Kesterson Reservoir.

A decision was made to divert the selenium-laden drainage water into the Drain for transport to the end of Mud Slough and ultimately to the San Joaquin River. Using the Drain to bypass the sensitive wetlands area significantly benefited refuge habitat.

Consequently, on November 3, 1995, Reclamation and the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority entered into a Use Agreement (Agreement) to allow the use of the Drain for conveyance of agricultural drainage.

Selenium discharges have not only been removed from the Grassland wetlands, but the discharges have been greatly reduced due to the efforts of Grassland area farmers who are implementing water-saving techniques and other creative measures to reuse the discharge water rather than release it into the Drain.

The original Use Agreement expired on September 30, 2001. To prevent a lapse in the provisions for this successful Project, the same parties who worked on the first consensus effort met for 2 years to craft a new Use Agreement for continued use of the Drain. Coinciding with this effort, an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report and appropriate endangered species consultations were completed.

The first year of the Phase II Grassland Bypass Project ended on December 31, 2002. Monthly discharges of selenium were below the load targets every month. The Grassland area farmers continue to strive for selenium reductions through in-valley solutions of selenium management.

For additional information, contact the Division of Environmental Affairs at 916-978-5522 (TDD 916-978-5608).



*Above, Salt Slough in the Grasslands area. At right, a selenium monitoring station. The Project provides drainage to ag lands to improve crop production.*



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***Reclamation is  
committed to  
diligently  
increasing the  
level of  
environmental  
awareness and  
responsibility ...***

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## Hazardous Materials Audits

The Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste Auditing and Review was added to Reclamation's Directives and Standards Manual (ENV 02-08). The current Audit Program Plan (Plan) for the Mid-Pacific Region was developed to enhance the auditing program, identify environmental infractions outstanding at Reclamation-owned facilities, and establish procedures for corrective actions.

The Plan includes information about the identification of Reclamation facilities; the audit schedule, procedure, and report; auditor training; compliance and tracking; and maintaining records.

Chapter 2, Environmental Auditing, Part 515 of the Department Manual 2, was issued as part of the Environmental Quality Program series. Reclamation is committed to diligently increasing the level of environmental awareness and responsibility, identifying any infractions of environmental regulations, and taking necessary corrective actions.

To effectively accomplish this, Reclamation's Environmental and Planning Coordination Office implemented the Environmental Audit Program in August 1999. In 2002, 35 audits were performed on Reclamation facilities. Each facility will be audited every 3 years to ensure environmental compliance.

For additional information, contact the Division of Environmental Affairs at 916-978-5038 (TDD 916-978-5608).



*The In-Delta Storage Investigation involves converting Delta islands like these into water storage reservoirs and wetland and wildlife habitat*

## In-Delta Storage Investigation

Reclamation and the State Department of Water Resources are conducting the In-Delta Storage Investigation (Investigation) under the CALFED Integrated Storage Investigations Program to evaluate surface water storage in the Delta. The purpose of the Investigation is to help meet the ecosystem needs of the Delta and provide water supply reliability.

The CALFED Record of Decision of August 2000 directs CALFED agencies to explore the lease or purchase of the Delta Wetlands Project, a private proposal by Delta Wetlands Properties, or to initiate a new in-Delta storage project should the Delta Wetlands Project prove to be cost prohibitive or technically infeasible. The project involves converting two Delta islands, Webb Tract and Bacon Island (11,000 acres), into water storage reservoirs and managing two islands, Bouldin Island and Holland Tract (9,000 acres), as wetland and wildlife habitat.

The In-Delta Storage Program Draft Report, May 2002, found that the Delta Wetlands Project, as proposed by Delta Wetlands Properties, is generally well planned but additional technical analysis is necessary before initiating purchase negotiations. Assessment of the Delta Wetlands design raised several concerns relative to risk of levee failure, environmental mitigation, construction methods, and potential for reduced water quality. A preliminary re-engineered alternative was developed to address these concerns based on State and Federal design standards for public ownership. Preliminary implementation cost of the re-engineered alternative is estimated at \$1.1 billion but could be as low as \$660 million depend-

ing on the variation in engineering design reflecting risk and level of protection.

Activities in 2003 are scheduled to include an engineering design risk analysis that may reduce project costs; water quality studies to evaluate temperature, dissolved oxygen, and other concerns; and an economic analysis. A go/no go decision point on whether to initiate negotiations with Delta Wetlands Properties to purchase the islands is scheduled for July 2003.

Reclamation cannot negotiate with Delta Wetlands Properties to purchase the islands until a Federal feasibility study is completed and Congress provides construction authorization. Outstanding issues associated with the project design, risk of failure, water quality, and project benefits must be resolved before initiating negotiations with Delta Wetlands Properties and others to purchase the island properties.

For additional information, contact the Division of Planning at 916-978-5060 (TDD 916-978-5608).

## Intertie

Reclamation is conducting environmental studies for the Intertie project to enable the Central Valley Project (CVP) to export up to its allowable Tracy Pumping Plant capability of 4,600 cubic feet per second (cfs). The Intertie also can provide operational flexibility for the CVP by filling San Luis Reservoir earlier and increasing Tracy pumping in July-August to minimize "low point" problems.

The project involves construction and operation of an intertie between the Delta-Mendota Canal (DMC) and California Aqueduct at Mile Post 7.00 or 7.69 of the DMC with a capacity of up to 400 cfs. Significant activities conducted in 2002 include completion of a Value Planning Report and initiation of environmental documentation required by the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act. Completion of environmental documentation and concept design for the Intertie is anticipated in 2003, with final design to be completed in 2004.

For additional information, contact the Division of Planning at 916-978-5060 (TDD 916-978-5608).



*The Delta-Mendota Canal, where studies are ongoing to build an intertie to the California Aqueduct.*

## Klamath Project Faced Dry Summer (1)

By mid-June 2002, it became apparent that inflow into Upper Klamath Lake was falling well below predicted values. Less than 2 inches of rain fell on the Project after April 1, 2002. In addition, the summer was hot and accompanied by low humidity, resulting in higher than forecasted irrigation demand.

As a result, it was necessary to lower the "Year Type" from "Below Average" to "Dry." This provided the necessary flexibility to continue the operation of the Project and still remain in compliance with the current Biological Opinions (BO's) on sucker fish and Coho salmon.

By mid-July, Reclamation was providing a reduced release below Iron Gate Dam in accordance with the BO's. The required lake elevations were also reduced giving

Reclamation more flexibility in operations.

On several occasions, the irrigators were reminded to carefully schedule their irrigation and to minimize their use of water. The Klamath Water Users Association also asked the basin irrigators to use water wisely. In August, the Klamath Basin Area Office asked the irrigators to curtail their take by 10 percent. These activities helped to ensure meeting crop water requirements.

For additional information, contact the Klamath Basin Area Office at 541-883-6935 (TDD 541-883-6935)

### Lake Berryessa Visitor Services Planning Effort (5)



*A sailboat on Lake Berryessa*

Lake Berryessa is a reservoir formed when Reclamation built Monticello Dam on Putah Creek in 1957. Seven concessionaires have contracts with the Federal government to provide recreation services at the lake. The services include 1,300 long-term sites (mostly privately owned trailers), 688 short-term sites (RV parks and campsites), marinas and boat ramps, and picnic areas.

The concession contracts, in place since the 1950s, will expire in 2008/2009 at which time new contract opportunities will be developed for competitive bid. The existing concessionaires do not have preferential rights and will compete with other interested parties.

In 2000, Reclamation began the Lake Berryessa Visitor Services Planning Effort to determine the type of facilities and services needed for future long-term operations. These services

include day use needs, long- and short-term RV and trailer sites, marina and concession operations, and food services. It also includes overnight lodging, fishing and swimming, and land activities.

The Visitor Services Plan will provide Reclamation with a 'road map' to develop the new concession contracts. The planning effort should be complete long before the current contracts expire, giving the existing concessionaires adequate time to consider their future options.

In 2000, fieldwork and information collection began, a website ([www.mp.usbr.gov/berryessa](http://www.mp.usbr.gov/berryessa)) and newsletter were developed, and informal public scoping began. The process continued in 2001 with formal public scoping and the initiation of contracts for recreation demand analysis, facility condition assessments, and economic feasibility studies.

At the end of 2002, there were four or five draft alternatives. The determination of the Preferred Alternative is anticipated in 2003 upon completion of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), after which there will be further collection and analysis of public comments. Reclamation anticipates the Final EIS and Visitor Services Plan to be released to the public in 2004.

For additional information, contact the Central California Area Office at 916-988-1707 (TDD 916-989-7285).

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***The Visitor  
Services Plan will  
provide  
Reclamation with a  
'road map' to  
develop the new  
concession  
contracts.***

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## Los Vaqueros Expansion Studies

The expansion of Los Vaqueros Reservoir by up to 400,000 acre-feet is identified as a program for further investigation that could provide water quality and water supply reliability benefits to Bay Area water users. Planning studies were initiated in 2001. As the reservoir's owner, Contra Costa Water District is the lead Project Manager for the studies. Reclamation and the State Department of Water Resources are funding the studies and acting as the Study Managers.

In 2002, Reclamation entered into a Financial Assistance agreement with Contra Costa Water District for \$4.05 million. The focus of this work is a continuation of planning studies, which will result in a series of technical memorandums on the environmental, engineering, and operational aspects of the potential expansion.

Reclamation expects to continue funding studies in 2003 to refine benefit and cost information and environmental aspects of the potential expansion project.

For additional information, contact the Division of Planning at 916-978-5060 (TDD 916-978-5608).



*Los Vaqueros Reservoir is being considered for a potential expansion project.*

## MP Region Safety, Health, and Security Program

In Fiscal Year 2002, much of the Security Program's effort was devoted to focusing on antiterrorism in response to the events of September 11, 2001. Reclamation conducted comprehensive security assessments of the Region's most critical facilities, and efforts were begun to address the issues that were identified. This will remain a high priority for Reclamation and the Region.

Despite that heavy focus, the Region's Office of Safety and Health continued to make progress in addressing critical issues. A major effort was the program's focus on electrical safety. The Region established a workgroup to discuss and problem-solve electrical safety issues and recommend electrical safety policy.

A second priority has been to conduct a baseline Safety & Health Program Review of each Mid-Pacific office and develop an executive summary to better identify areas where additional resources and efforts are needed.

The Accessibility Program's focus was on continuing to bring MP Region facilities into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Region has completed most of the needed assessments of facilities to determine where deficiencies exist and has begun development of the necessary action plans to address them.

The Region is on course to meet Reclamation's long-term 2010 goals for this program.

For more information, contact the Office of Safety, Health, and Security at 916-978-5575 (TDD 916-978-5608).

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## Native American Affairs

In 2002, the Mid-Pacific Region's Native American Affairs Technical Assistance Program provided \$386,000 in grants to six federally recognized tribes for a variety of water resource needs. The projects ranged from water quality assessments for drinking water, ecosystems, and fisheries to water storage, riverine mechanics, and water contamination mitigation studies.

Recipients in 2002 were the Yurok Tribe, Fallon-Shoshone Paiute Tribe, Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, Karuk Tribe, the Klamath Tribes, and Cortina Rancheria (Wintun Tribe).

In 2002, several tribes completed water resource-related projects to improve ecosystem water quality, restore wetlands, evaluate on-reservation surface storage options, and mitigate naturally occurring water contamination, using funding from the Mid-Pacific Region's Native American Affairs Technical Assistance Program. The tribes were the Cortina Rancheria (Wintun Tribe), Sherwood Valley Rancheria (Pomo Tribe), Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, and the Tule River Tribe (Yokuts).

CALFED Tribal activities in 2002 included MP Region Division of Resources Management Native American Affairs Office's (Office) participation with several California tribes and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to jointly develop principles for future discussions on CALFED North-of-Delta Off-Stream Storage Projects, in which DWR has the lead. These discussions currently include the Cortina Rancheria, Colusa Rancheria, and the Grindstone Rancheria.

The Office also arranged tribal meetings on CALFED's Upper San Joaquin Surface Storage Program with the Table Mountain Rancheria (Yokut), North Fork Rancheria (Western Mono), and Big Sandy Rancheria (Western Mono), as well as initiating discussions with Reclamation CALFED Program Managers on the Federal Indian trust responsibility.

Activities under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, Title IV, Self-Governance (P.L. 93-638), included Annual Funding Agreements with the Yurok and Karuk Tribes for the purposes of collecting data to improve tribal fisheries and water quality on the Trinity and Klamath Rivers under the authorities of the Trinity River Division Act and the Klamath Basin Fishery Resources Restoration Act.

Outreach activities included the Office's development and participation in Reclamation's Bureau-wide 2002 Native American Affairs Conference on the subjects of "Formal Tribal Consultation and Tribal Sovereignty."

For additional information, contact the Division of Resources Management at 916-978-5200 (TDD 916-978-5608).

## Newlands Project Operating Criteria and Procedures

Withdrawal of water from the Truckee River by municipalities and irrigation districts has decreased the flow in the Truckee River, the only source of water for Pyramid Lake, a desert terminal lake in northern Nevada. Among the many

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***Reclamation uses  
its expertise to help  
Native American  
tribes get the  
information they  
need to find ways to  
manage and  
develop water and  
water-related  
resources.***

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entities withdrawing water from the Truckee River is Reclamation's Newlands Project. The Newlands Project provides water to approximately 60,000 acres in the Lahontan Valley and uses include Indian and non-Indian agriculture and wetlands.

The withdrawal of water from the Truckee River has contributed to the decline of the surface elevation of Pyramid Lake, resulting in listing the cui-ui fish as endangered and the Lahontan cutthroat trout as threatened.

The Operating Criteria and Procedures (OCAP), first implemented in 1967, are intended to provide sufficient water to Newlands Project water users to meet their water rights while maximizing the use of Carson River water and minimizing use of Truckee River water. Minimizing use of the Truckee River may help in maintenance and recovery of listed species in Pyramid Lake.

The OCAP was last modified in 1997 to accommodate changes in the Newlands Project and to address assumptions in previous OCAPs that were erroneous or never materialized.

During 2002, diversions to the Lahontan Reservoir from the Truckee River occurred from the second week of February through the end of December due to insufficient flow from the Carson River to meet project needs. The possibilities of future diversions depend on the amount of snow received in the Carson River basin and the resultant water supply.

The OCAP minimizes use of Truckee River water in two ways. It establishes storage targets in Lahontan Reservoir and uses forecasting of river flows to determine when diversions from the Truckee River are needed to meet storage targets. It also sets target efficiencies for the delivery of water in the Newlands Project.

The Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, which operates and maintains the Newlands Project, exceeded efficiency targets in the 2000 and 2001 irrigation seasons and, based on incomplete data, it appears the efficiency target for the 2002 irrigation season will be exceeded as well. These accomplishments are due to improved water management techniques and improved water measurement implemented by the District and Reclamation.

For additional information, contact the Lahontan Basin Area Office at 775-882-3436 (TDD 775-882-3436).



The Truckee River

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***OCAP, first implemented in 1967, provides sufficient water to Newlands Project users while maximizing the use of Carson River water and minimizing use of Truckee River water.***

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## New Melones Lake Resource Area (7)

The dam at New Melones was completed in 1979 and created the 12,500-acre lake that exists today. Reclamation staff operate and manage the facilities at New Melones Lake to provide more than 300 campsites, three boat launch areas, six day use areas, and two group campgrounds.

During 2002, more than 800,000 visitors used the recreation facilities at New Melones Lake. Reclamation park rangers and volunteers at the Visitor Center offered a renowned interpretive program and presented environmental education and interpretive programs to more than 2,300 active participants.

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***During 2002, more than 800,000 visitors used the recreation facilities at New Melones Lake.***

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## Water Fact

The Central Valley Project annually delivers about 7 million acre-feet of water.

It irrigates more than 3 million acres of California farmland and provides water to about 2 million urban consumers.

## Water and Wastewater System Upgrades

In 2001, a Needs Assessment for the potable water and wastewater systems at New Melones Lake was completed. The infrastructure for the recreation facilities, constructed between 1987 and 1993, is deteriorating or in some cases inadequate to accommodate existing use on peak weekends. The assessment identified improvements necessary to continue supplying customers with quality drinking water and identified permitted wastewater systems throughout the New Melones Recreation Area. The New Melones Lake Resource Area recently received \$1 million in special Congressional funding through a collaborative effort with Calaveras County and Representative John Doolittle. The funds were put to work in 2002 to make needed upgrades to the water and wastewater systems at the recreation areas.

A construction contract was awarded in 2002 to accomplish repairs on the evaporation ponds, lift pumps, and spray fields in the Glory Hole Recreation Area. This work is ongoing and should be completed in time for the 2003 recreation season. The Phase 2 feasibility level design work for additional improvements to Glory Hole and Tuttletown Recreation areas will be performed in the spring of 2003.

## Water Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

Reclamation and the Federal Lakes Demonstration Project recently initiated the development of a Water Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) to assist in the inventory, planning, and management of water resources. Modeled after the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum used by the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service, WROS is tailored to and provides more detailed guidance for lakes, reservoirs, wetlands, estuaries, bays, rivers, tidal basins, coastal zone areas, and other water and land-related areas.

New Melones has been selected as one of the few lakes in the United States to demonstrate this program. The completed document will be used to provide operational guidance for planning and managing recreational opportunities on or adjacent to water resources. The information will be used in the completion of the Resource Management Plan.

## Visitor Use and Capacity Studies

New Melones received \$30,000 from the Federal Lakes Demonstration Project to implement a visitor use study. A study is under way to identify methods to attract users of diverse backgrounds and interests and to describe facilities needed in the future to accommodate these users. The study's results may be applicable to other Federal lakes that accommodate an urban user base.

New Melones will incorporate the information into the Resource Management Plan to provide direction for the development of future facilities and resource management. The visitor use study information is currently pending. A Visitor Capacity study, which has been accomplished by contract with Colorado State University, was released in draft form for Reclamation's comments.

## Shell Road Corridor Interim Management Plan

In the spring of 2002, New Melones began the process of creating an Interim Management Plan for the Shell Road Corridor. Shell Road runs through private and public lands managed by Reclamation and the Bureau of Land Management, and is located at the southwest end of New Melones Lake. Approximately 2 miles of the road is unimproved dirt.

The Shell Road Corridor is made up of the portion of Shell Road that runs across Reclamation property and the adjacent Reclamation owned lands. The Shell Road Corridor is a part of the Peoria Mountain Wildlife Management Area. This corridor is a popular area for recreation including hiking, wildlife viewing, rock climbing, hunting, horseback riding, and mountain biking.

The natural resources and public safety in this area are being compromised by illegal and irresponsible activities. Vegetation damage, habitat destruction, erosion, sedimentation, and related resource impacts are increasing throughout the area. The roadway itself has become severely eroded and is not suitable for public vehicles. The Interim Management Plan will address these issues.

The process has been a collaborative effort. The timeline for this process started with seeking input from the public on concerns and recommendations for the area and ways to improve natural resources management and provide for appropriate recreational use and public access. Those ideas were used to develop draft plan alternatives, which the public had an opportunity to review and comment on during an open house in January 2002 at the New Melones Visitor Center.

The comments received were used to develop the draft Interim Management Plan. That plan was reviewed and put forth for further public comment before the Final Interim Management Plan was adopted on April 15, 2003. The Interim Management Plan will also be used in the completion of the Resource Management Plan.

For additional information, contact the Central California Area Office at 916-988-1707 (TDD 916-989-7285).



*Hikers enjoy the scenery of the Shell Road Corridor.*

## Placer County Water Agency Pumping Plant, Auburn Dam Diversion Tunnel Closure, and American River Restoration (6)

The Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) Permanent Pumping Plant, Auburn Dam Diversion Tunnel Closure, and American River Restoration Project is a multi-agency effort to provide PCWA with a reliable water supply, correct safety issues associated with the diversion tunnel, and restore a dewatered portion of the American River to its pre-dam construction functions.

As part of the initial construction of the Auburn Dam, Reclamation



*The Auburn Dam Diversion Tunnel*



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***The tunnel now poses a threat to human safety because the downstream portal may be submerged while the upstream portal is not.***

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removed a pumping plant belonging to PCWA that was used to convey water supplies from its Middle Fork Project. Reclamation and PCWA entered into a land purchase agreement that obligated Reclamation to provide a temporary pumping facility until Auburn Dam was completed. Reclamation installs a temporary pump station each spring and removes it each fall prior to the flood season, but in a few years the temporary pump station won't be able to meet PCWA's increasing water demands.

A cofferdam and a 2-mile long diversion tunnel were built during construction of Auburn Dam that dewatered a 3/4-mile section of the North Fork of the American River. The tunnel now poses a threat to human safety because the downstream portal may be submerged while the upstream portal is not. Reclamation wants to correct the safety issue and direct the river to its historic channel.

The State of California has also expressed an interest in closing the diversion tunnel and restoring the American River to its natural channel. Reclamation and the State entered into a Memorandum of Understanding in January 2001 to complete the design and specifications and an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for river restoration and public access portions of the project. The State also has appropriated funds to contribute toward construction.

Reclamation, PCWA, and the State of California are now completing the design and specifications and the EIS/EIR for the three-part project replacing the PCWA pumps, closing the diversion tunnel, and restoring the river with public access. The draft EIS/EIR has been finalized, but lack of an approved FY 2003 budget and Federal Court decisions have impacted the project, which is now expected to begin in calendar year 2003.

For additional information, contact the Central California Area Office at 916-988-1707 (TDD 916-989-7285).



*Reclamation's Centennial Trailer (above), toured the MP Region. Visitors (right) check out its historical displays.*



## Regional Centennial Celebration

The Mid-Pacific Region kicked-off its Centennial Celebration on June 17, 2002, at a get-together for Regional Office employees, complete with three cakes specially decorated in honor of Reclamation's 100 Years of Service to the West.

A giant Centennial poster was available for employees to sign and various brochures and booklets were given away. Assistant Regional Director Susan Ramos read a special Proclamation signed by Governor Gray Davis and Secretary of State Bill Jones proclaiming June 17, 2002, as "Bureau of Reclamation Day" for the State of California. (While not read at the event, Reclamation also received a Proclamation issued by Sacramento Mayor Heather Fargo which proclaimed June 17, 2002, as "Bureau of Reclamation Day in Sacramento" in honor of the 100th Anniversary.)

The Centennial Trailer that moved throughout the Mid-Pacific Region from June through October 2002 was one of three specially built to provide a mobile exhibit of Reclamation's 100-year history. The trailer was part of the Region's Centennial celebration and was an important way to educate the public on Reclamation and the many benefits the agency provides.

The trailer was open to the public in Fresno, Byron, Napa, Los Banos, San Luis Obispo, Folsom, Sacramento, Happy Valley, and Shasta Lake, CA; and Fallon, Silver Springs, and Fernley, NV. Almost 100 volunteers staffed the trailer in the Regional Office, the Area Offices, and at the California State Fair.

The 12th annual Federal Reclamation Employee Association (FREA) Appreciation & Awards Day for Regional Office and Central Valley Operations Office employees took place on August 16 and was restructured to celebrate Reclamation's Centennial. Special touches were added to the event in honor of the Centennial – which coincided with the MP Region's 60th anniversary. Invitations were sent to some 200 retirees and their spouses. Framed Centennial posters were presented to five retirees who began working for the Region in the 1940s and one who joined the Region in 1939.

The Area Offices also held their own Centennial celebrations. At the Tracy Office, the celebration took place June 21 with a turnout of employees from Tracy, Fresno, and a few from Sacramento, as well as family members and Tracy retirees. Guests toured the Centennial Trailer and the Tracy Fish Facility, where biologists provided a hands-on demonstration of how they conduct tests for endangered fish.

The Centennial trailer was next on display in the Fresno area at the Millerton Lake State Recreation Area (Friant Dam reservoir) on June 22-23. Fresno Office employees, their family members and friends, and interested Millerton Lake visitors had the opportunity to view the trailer that showed the contribution Reclamation has made to the nation's westward expansion.

The Northern California Area Office (NCAO) kicked off its Centennial celebration on May 18 with an entry in the 54th Annual Redding Rodeo Parade. The theme of the parade was "Let Freedom Ride." NCAO's float, entered in the Civic and Commercial category, won first place.

NCAO also held a number of other special activities to celebrate the Centennial. On September 6, the Centennial Trailer arrived at Shasta Dam, and on September 12, NCAO held an Employee Appreciation Day event. On September 28, a Shasta Dam Workers' Annual Reunion took place. Guests were given a special dam tour and old tools and other artifacts were on display.

The MP Region's Public Affairs Office also designed a special commemorative coin that was distributed to all Regional employees. The back of the coin depicts Reclamation's past through the water-drop seal, used by Reclamation from 1965 to 1993. The present and future are depicted on the coin's front through Reclamation's current seal, an oval featuring mountains reflected in a lake. The new seal, introduced in 1994, reflects Reclamation's changing role from a dam construction agency to a water resources management agency.

For additional information, contact the Mid-Pacific Region Office of Public Affairs at 916-978-5100 (TDD 916-978-5608).

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***The Centennial trailer was part of the Region's Centennial celebration and was an important way to educate the public on Reclamation and the many benefits the agency provides.***

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NCAO's float, entered in the Civic and Commercial category, won first place in the 54th Annual Redding Rodeo Parade.



San Luis Dam and Reservoir

## San Luis Drainage Feature Re-evaluation (10)

The Mid-Pacific Region is developing a plan to provide drainage service to the CVP's San Luis Unit (Unit). Over the past 4 decades, Reclamation has formulated and reformulated different plans to provide drainage service to the Unit pursuant to section 1(a) of the San Luis Act. In 1995, a Federal judge held that the San Luis Act mandated that the Department of the Interior provide drainage and ordered Reclamation to apply for a discharge permit to complete the San Luis Drain to the Delta.

In April 2001, Reclamation, on behalf of Interior, completed a "Plan of Action" outlining a strategy to provide drainage to the Unit. A comprehensive review of all drainage service options defined in previous years is being conducted including a review of drainage water treatment technologies developed in recent years.

The project purpose is to provide agricultural drainage service to the Unit that achieves long-term sustainable salt and water balance in the root zone of irrigated lands. A long-term, sustainable salt and water balance is needed to ensure sustainable agriculture in the Unit and the region. In December 2001, a Preliminary Alternatives Report was completed outlining potential alternatives to provide drainage for water in-valley and out-of-valley.

A Plan Formulation Report was completed in December 2002 that set forth the analysis of alternatives for providing drainage service to the Unit. The report accomplishes the important objective of meeting the Plan of Action milestone for identifying a proposed action by December 2002. The major findings of the report were as follows:

- By 2050, approximately 379,000 acres will need drainage service (343,000 acres in the Unit and 36,000 acres in the northerly area outside the Unit).
- Cost-effective on-farm and in-district drainwater reduction measures and regional drainwater reuse could reduce drainage volumes by nearly 80 percent.
- For land retirement scenarios, it appears the expected cost of purchasing and retiring lands is greater than the cost of providing drainage service to these lands.
- Implementing any drainage service plan will require further congressional action to increase the authorized appropriation cap under the San Luis Act.

During the next phase of the Feature Re-evaluation process, Reclamation will refine the components of the proposed action, provide additional engineering detail, and complete the environmental review of the proposed action and alternatives. Public release of a draft Environmental Impact Statement is scheduled for June 2004, and public scoping meetings were held January 2003.

For additional information, contact the Division of Planning at 916-978-5060 (TDD 916-978-5608).

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***The project's purpose is to provide agricultural drainage service to the Unit that achieves long-term sustainable salt and water balance in the root zone of irrigated lands.***

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## San Luis Lowpoint Improvement Project

The San Luis Lowpoint Improvement Project is identified as a complementary action in the CALFED ROD. Working under a grant from the State of California, the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) has undertaken the role of implementing agency for this project. SCVWD is conducting a feasibility study and Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR).

Reclamation has agreed to be the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) lead for this study; however, no CALFED funding is currently available for Reclamation activities in FY 2003.

In 2002, Reclamation entered into an agreement with SCVWD to conduct an operational appraisal study to identify and analyze reoperation of Anderson Reservoir such that CVP contractors may take all or portions of the water remaining at the San Luis Reservoir during the low point without causing or exacerbating problems associated from the lowpoint. Reclamation intends to continue to participate in these studies as the NEPA lead; however, the source of funding for Reclamation activities is uncertain.

For additional information, contact the Division of Planning at 916-978-5060 (TDD 916-978-5608).

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***Reclamation has agreed to be the NEPA lead for this study; however, no CALFED funding is currently available for Reclamation activities in FY 2003.***

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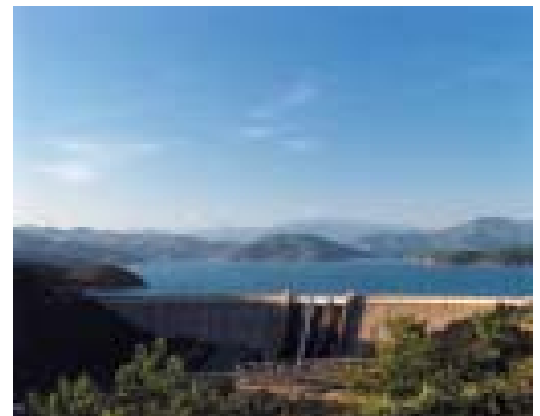
## Shasta Dam Enlargement Investigation

Reclamation is conducting feasibility level studies focusing on the potential to enlarge Shasta Dam primarily for increased water supply and operational flexibility. Increases in demand for water supplies and attention to ecosystem needs in the Central Valley have renewed interests in expanding the facility. The study is being conducted under the general authority of Public Law 96-375.

Shasta Reservoir could be expanded by 290,000 acre-feet by raising Shasta Dam 6.5 feet. Such an expansion would increase the pool of cold water available to maintain lower Sacramento River water temperatures needed by certain fish and provide other water management benefits such as water supply reliability. About 2,000 additional acres would be inundated, including a portion of the McCloud River protected by California's Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Reclamation, the State Department of Water Resources, local partners, and other State and Federal agencies are studying project alternatives, water supply benefits, potential adverse effects, and mitigation strategies. Coordination continues with landowners on the McCloud River to complete environmental surveys that address adverse impacts to the wild and scenic status of the river. Reclamation is initiating public involvement to establish working relationships with the public and key local, State and Federal agencies; coordinate related activities; and present its technical findings.

Significant activities completed in 2002 include completion of reservoir mapping, systems modeling, and development of a plan formulation strategy and a public outreach plan.



Shasta Dam

The Region is continuing to conduct environmental studies, systems modeling, and hydrologic studies to evaluate potential storage, operational, and conjunctive management alternatives. An Interim Alternatives Information Report is scheduled for completion in late 2003. The draft feasibility report/EIS/EIR is scheduled for completion by mid 2005.

For additional information, contact the Division of Planning at 916-978-5060 (TDD 916-978-5608).

## South Delta Improvement Program

Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) are conducting environmental studies for the South Delta Improvement Program (SDIP) to provide more reliable long-term export capability for the State Water Project (SWP) and CVP while addressing the needs of the Delta ecosystem and local In-Delta agricultural water users.

The SDIP is a component of the Conveyance Program of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. Expanded conveyance through the SDIP is critical to improve CVP South-of-Delta allocations to at least 65 percent, consistent with the objectives of the CALFED Record of Decision.

The major components of the SDIP are increasing the maximum allowable diversion capacity at the SWP's Clifton Court Forebay to 8,500 cubic feet per second; dredging a portion of Old River to improve conveyance capability during periods of high SWP and CVP Delta exports; construction of permanent operable barriers to improve water supply reliability and quality in the south Delta; dredging channels to reduce frequency of barrier operations and to accommodate improvements to existing agricultural diversions both upstream and downstream; and constructing a permanent fish control structure at the head of the Old River.

Significant activities conducted in 2002 included public and stakeholder involvement and initiation of environmental documentation required by the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act. Completion of environmental documentation is anticipated in the spring of 2004 with project implementation beginning in 2005.

For additional information, contact the Division of Planning at 916-978-5060 (TDD 916-978-5608).

## Technical Assistance to the State – Model Development

In 2002, Reclamation developed a Microsoft Access database application for the State Department of Water Resources district offices. Funding was provided from the Technical Assistance to the States Program, a fund provided to Reclamation and other agencies to allow staff to help States and Tribes with technical expertise. This new application replaces the use of hundreds of individual spreadsheets and accepts and stores soil type, cropland use, and meteorological data.

The application also computes evapo-transpiration of applied water at a local

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***Significant  
activities conducted  
in 2002 included  
public and  
stakeholder  
involvement and  
initiation of  
environmental  
documentation.***

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level and combines these results into State-wide reports. The application increased the efficiency in processing these data and increased availability to Reclamation.

This information is a major contribution in developing the 2003 California Water Plan Update, a document produced by the State to evaluate water needs and supplies, water management strategies, and a decision making framework.

For additional information, contact the Division of Planning at 916-978-5060 (TDD 916-978-5608).

## Trinity River Restoration Program (3)

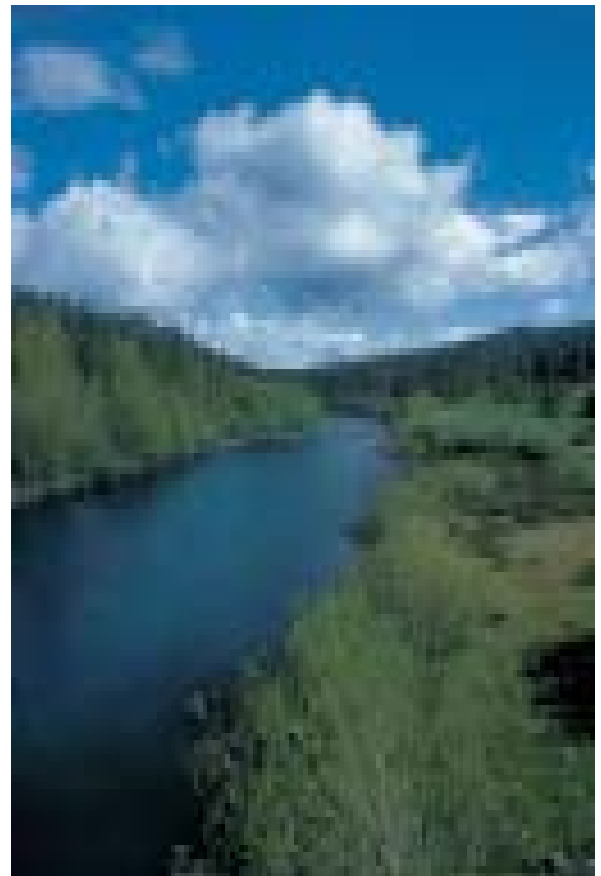
Located in northern California, the Trinity River is one of the most beautiful in the State and nationally known for its salmon and steelhead fisheries. In 1964, the Trinity and Lewiston Dams were completed to provide water supplies and power generation for California's Central Valley – but which resulted in the diversion and export of as much as 75 to 90 percent of the Trinity River's flow for the past 4 decades.

The Trinity River Restoration Program (Program) was established in 1984, under Public Law 98-541, to restore and maintain the fish and wildlife stocks of the Trinity River Basin to those levels that existed just prior to the construction of the CVP's Trinity River Division. The Central Valley Project Improvement Act (P.L. 102-575) acknowledged the Federal Government's trust responsibilities, increased in-stream flows to 340,000 acre-feet per year, and directed the Secretary of the Interior to develop procedures for restoring and maintaining the Trinity River fishery. To do this, Reclamation plays a key role as a member of the Trinity Management Council, the decision-making body charged with setting policy for the Program.

The Trinity River Mainstem Fishery Restoration Final Environmental Impact Statement was completed in October 2000, with the Record of Decision (ROD) signed on December 19, 2000. Shortly after the ROD was signed, a lawsuit was filed in Federal District Court by a group of Central Valley water and power users. On March 19, 2001, Judge Oliver Wanger enjoined that part of the decision that provided increased flows for the Trinity River required for preparation of a Supplemental EIS/EIR, but allowed other aspects of the Program to proceed.

On April 19, 2002, Judge Wanger modified his preliminary injunction and allowed Reclamation to release up to 468,600 acre-feet of water to the Trinity River in Water Year 2002, resulting in peak flows of 6,000 cubic feet per second for 3 days in May 2002. This helped achieve a variety of geomorphic and fish habitat objectives within the river channel. Much progress in other non-flow restoration activities was made during 2002, including:

- Environmental studies and engineering designs for bridge modifications, channel restoration, and gravel management activities are under way.



*The Trinity River*

- Other restoration activities include: dredging and maintenance of the Grass Valley Creek sediment control ponds, a feasibility study for sediment control ponds on Indian Creek and Rush Creek, and planning for spawning gravel augmentation projects.
- Establishment of the Trinity Adaptive Management Working Group (Federally chartered advisory committee) to allow for formal stakeholder participation. The Secretary of the Interior announced membership of this group on November 14, 2002, and its first meeting took place in February 2003.
- Establishment of the Adaptive Environmental Assessment and Management Team to provide technical and scientific support for the Program. The Executive Director was hired in October 2001, the Weaverville field office opened in September 2002, and staffing that office with scientific and technical resource specialists is largely complete.

For additional information, contact the Trinity River Restoration Program Office in Weaverville, CA, at 530-623-1800.



Pyramid Lake

### Truckee River Operating Agreement (4)

Reclamation is one of a host of parties interested in the operation of reservoirs on the Truckee River (Lake Tahoe, Prosser Creek Reservoir, Boca Reservoir, Stampede Reservoir, Donner Lake, and Independence Lake), which are negotiating a comprehensive operating agreement for the reservoirs. Parties participating in the negotiations include the States of California and Nevada, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (water provider for the Reno/Sparks area), Washoe County, the Town of Fernley, and others. That agreement is called the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA).

The agreement will result in more efficient use of the Truckee River reservoirs and multiple benefits for a wide variety of Truckee River interests such as:

- Increased municipal and industrial drought water supply for the Reno/Sparks area and the Truckee River basin in California.
- Enhanced habitat for endangered and threatened fish species in the Truckee River and Pyramid Lake.
- A reduction in the variability of instream flow and enhanced seasonal instream flows.
- Improved water quality and maintenance of reservoir storage at levels that better serve recreational uses.

The parties negotiating TROA have completed a draft agreement. A revised draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report will be prepared by the Department of the Interior, Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and State of California and is expected to be completed in 2004.

For additional information, contact the Lahontan Basin Area Office at 775-882-3436 (TDD 775-882-3436).

## Upper San Joaquin River Basin Storage Investigation (8)

The CALFED Record of Decision (ROD) of August 28, 2000, calls for 250,000 to 700,000 acre-feet of additional surface storage in the Upper San Joaquin watershed or a functionally equivalent storage program in the region.

The Upper San Joaquin River Basin Investigation would accomplish these goals by increasing storage to improve water supply reliability, providing water for the environment when it is needed most, and providing flows timed to maintain water quality. It would also protect levees through coordinated operations with existing flood control reservoirs and improve the reliability of CVP water supplies south of the Delta.

The study was undertaken as a result of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act Project Yield Increase Investigation and the CALFED Bay-Delta Program initiatives. Consistent with the ROD, Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources have taken action in the form of a two-phase public investigation.

The Investigation's Phase 1 is well under way and will include an appraisal-level evaluation so Reclamation can determine if a potentially viable plan appears likely.

Elected officials from the State, county, and Federal governments have also been keeping close tabs on the issues involved and Reclamation's progress. Coordination with other on-going programs will be important to ensure consistency with the goals of others such as CALFED and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento-San Joaquin Basins Comprehensive Study.

An affirmative determination at the conclusion of Phase 1 will lead to intensified evaluation of detailed project alternatives and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report. Phase 2 will begin with the filing of a Notice of Intent and Notice of Preparation for environmental review and disclosure of the subject Investigation.

Major accomplishments in 2002 included completion of a plan of study detailing the scope of the Investigation, identification and analysis of 15 surface storage options that could potentially serve an equivalent storage to Friant Dam Enlargement, coordination with the State and major local interests, and completion of a modification to the CALSIM II model to incorporate an accurate representation of Friant Dam operations. Several planning documents have been published for public review and comment, and final planning and environmental documentation is scheduled for public review in 2005.

For additional information, contact the South-Central California Area Office at 559-487-5116 (TDD 559-487-5933), or the Division of Planning at 916-978-5060 (TDD 916-978-5608).



*Friant Dam and Millerton Lake*

## Water Fact

The Central Valley Project's reservoirs can store 11 million acre-feet of water. It is transported 450 miles from Lake Shasta in northern California to Bakersfield in the southern San Joaquin Valley.



*A fishing boat underway in the Bay-Delta*

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***The Settlement Agreement provides that Reclamation and DWR will voluntarily meet the flow-related objectives of the Bay-Delta Plan for up to 11 years.***

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## Water Quality Control Plan for San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary

In 1995, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan) which establishes the water quality and flow standards the CVP/SWP are required to meet.

This was accomplished through Water Right Decision D-1641, promulgated by the SWRCB in 2000. The remaining issue that D-1641 did not address was Phase 8 which would have addressed the responsibility of Sacramento Valley water right holders other than the Central Valley Project (CVP)/State

Water Project (SWP) to meet those objectives.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) encouraged the parties to resolve responsibilities for meeting the objectives and to bring their proposals to the SWRCB for approval. The involved parties, including the Northern California Water Association, Department of Water Resources (DWR), Reclamation, and various CVP and SWP contractors, agreed to a proposal, now generally referred to as the Phase 8 Settlement Agreement. The SWRCB issued an order ending the hearings in light of the Settlement Agreement.

The Settlement Agreement provides that Reclamation and DWR will voluntarily meet the flow-related objectives of the Bay-Delta Plan for up to 11 years. The Agreement includes a Short-Term Settlement Agreement to be executed in 2003 and a Long-Term Settlement Agreement to be completed by March 2005.

Throughout 2002, Reclamation, DWR, CVP and SWP contractors, and the Northern California Water Association negotiated a proposed Short-Term Settlement Agreement. This agreement will provide up to 185,000 acre-feet of water in most water years to both the CVP and SWP. Reclamation executed the Short-Term Settlement Agreement in January 2003.

Several other agreements and activities will be required over the next 2 years to formally resolve issues involved with the Phase 8 Settlement Agreement. Reclamation and DWR recently began negotiation of an agreement to define sharing of the water from the Sacramento Valley waters between the CVP and SWP.

As part of the Short-Term Settlement Agreement, Reclamation is facilitating a long-term transfer of 25,000 acre-feet of CVP water from the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors to the Tehama-Colusa Canal Contractors. Negotiations of the general form of agreement are under way. Ultimately, the parties must develop a long-term work plan to increase benefits for all parties and provide the basis for a long-term settlement agreement.

For additional information, contact the Division of Resources Management at 916-978-5200 (TDD 916-978-5608).

## Walker River Basin Federal Indian Water Rights Negotiation Team

At the request of the State of Nevada, the Walker River Irrigation District, the Walker River Paiute Tribe, and other key interests in the Walker River Basin, the Department of the Interior appointed a Federal Indian water rights negotiation team in late May 2002 to seek a settlement involving water rights claims by the Walker River Tribe and other tribal entities and Federal agencies and recovery of Walker Lake and the Lahontan cutthroat trout fishery.

Lahontan Basin Area Manager Betsy Rieke has been appointed chair of the Federal negotiating team. The team consists of representatives of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Reclamation, and Land Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Office of the Solicitor, the Department of Justice, and the Department of the Army. The negotiations are in the early stages.

In addition, in 2002 money was appropriated to Reclamation to provide water to at-risk, desert terminal lakes. Recognizing the declining level and increasing salinity of Walker Lake, Reclamation has earmarked some of the funding for projects in the Walker River Basin.

For additional information, contact the Lahontan Basin Area Office at 775-882-3436 (TDD 775-882-3436).

## Water Supply Improvement Efforts

The CVP was designed to provide approximately 7 million acre-feet of water for California's agricultural and urban users in all but the driest of years. The enactment of Public Law 102-575, the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA) dedicated 1,200,000 acre-feet of CVP yield to fish and wildlife purposes and charged Reclamation with identifying actions to replace that yield.

In 2002, Reclamation continued efforts directed by Sec. 3408(j) of the CVPIA to develop a least-cost yield plan to replace the re-dedicated yield. A preliminary draft Water Supply Improvement Plan (WSIP) to supplement the Least-Cost CVP Yield Increase Plan published in 1995 was developed to examine new data, actions, and programs studied or implemented since Least-Cost Plan publication.

The primary efforts in 2002 included: discussions with stakeholders for an Integrated Resource Plan in the American River Basin and the Calaveras/Stanslaus Basin, update of CVPIA impacts using the new CALSIM model and hydrology; and coordinate with ongoing projects and programs to protect yield replacement opportunities while developing the WSIP.

Reclamation prepared a water supply Gap Analysis for the CVP's Westside region. Information was developed to analyze current and future water supply and needs for Municipal and Industrial, agricultural, and environmental uses.

A draft WSIP and Westside Gap Analysis are planned for distribution in 2003. The WSIP will include recommendations to study and fund actions for demand reduction, conveyance improvements, transfers, conjunctive use, and new storage.

For additional information, contact the Division of Planning at 916-978-5060 (TDD 916-978-5608).

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***In 2002 money was appropriated to allow Reclamation to provide water to at-risk, desert terminal lakes.***

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## Water Fact

An acre-foot of water is about equal to a football field covered with a foot of water.

California receives about 193 million acre-feet a year as rain or snow. Of that amount, only 71 million acre-feet is available in usable surface water.



# CVP by the Numbers

3,000,000

*Number of acres the CVP irrigates*

1,943,040

*By comparison, the acreage of the combined land mass of Delaware and Rhode Island*

20

*Number of major CVP dams*

4.5 million

*Acre feet of storage provided by Shasta Dam*

11

*Number of CVP hydropower plants*

4.8 billion

*Average number of watts of electricity produced by CVP hydropower plants annually*

4,600

*Amount of water, expressed in cubic feet per second (cfs), capable of being pumped by the Tracy Pumping Plant in the south Delta into the Delta-Mendota Canal*

500

*Number of miles of CVP canals*

1938

*Year of first CVP water delivery in the Contra Costa Canal*